

## Visual Artists Fellowships Application Calendar

Fellowship Area	Application Postmark Deadline	Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection	Earliest Fellowship Beginning Date
New Genres (formerly "Conceptual/Perfor- mance/New Gen- res" and "Video")	Jan. 15, 1985	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1985
Painting	Feb. 1, 1985	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1985
Printmaking/Drawing/ Artists Books	Mar. 25, 1985	Sept. 1985	Oct. 1985
Photography	Jan. 25, 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1986
Sculpture	Feb. 15, 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1986
Crafts	Mar. 15, 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1986

### NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Individuals may apply only once, and in only one fellowship area, for any of the 1985-86 deadlines listed above. Applications must be postmarked no later than the appropriate deadline date indicated above. Each fellowship area is offered every two years. Please note the calendar year in which your fellowship area is offered.

Please do not seek information on the status of your application before the announcement date for your area noted above.

You may also wish to contact your state or regional arts agency for information regarding other funding opportunities for visual artists. Please note, however, that some agencies are prohibited by law from awarding grants to individuals.

If your address changes between the application deadline and the announcement date, send a standard change-of-address (U.S. Postal Service) card with your full application number to the Visual Arts Program.

Please read this booklet carefully.

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## Preface

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### Statement of Mission National Endowment for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts, an independent agency of the Federal Government, was created in 1965 to encourage and assist the nation's cultural resources. The Endowment is advised by the National Council on the Arts, a presidentially appointed body composed of the Chairman of the Endowment and 26 distinguished private citizens who are widely recognized for their expertise or interest in the arts. The Council advises the Endowment on policies, procedures, and programs, in addition to making recommendations on grant applications.

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### Preamble

Throughout the ages, man has striven to go beyond the limits of the immediate physical world to create that which was not there before and thus nourish the human spirit. Our first record of man's perception of the world around him was through art scratched on cave walls, carved in stone, or modeled in clay. Man's need to make, experience, and comprehend art is as profound as his need to speak. It is through art that we can understand ourselves and our potential. And it is through art that we will be understood and remembered by those who will come after us.

This nation's governance is based on our people's commitment to freedom of imagination, thought, and expression. Our many aesthetic and cultural traditions are precious to us—for the rich variety of their beauty and as a symbol of the diverse nature of the United States.

Primary support for the arts has always come directly from the people of this nation: artists in localities all across the country who create and sustain the arts and contributors who support the arts out of conviction and as a matter of civic and regional pride.

It was in this context that the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act was enacted in 1965. The Congress found that "the encouragement and support of national progress and scholarship in the humanities and the arts, while primarily a matter of private and local initiative, is also an appropriate matter of concern to the Federal Government ..."

The Congress also found that "while no government can call a great artist or scholar into existence, it is necessary and appropriate for the Federal Government to help create and sustain not only a climate encouraging freedom of thought, imagination, and inquiry, but also the material conditions facilitating the release of this creative talent ..."

### Mission

The mission of the National Endowment for the Arts is:

- To foster the excellence, diversity, and vitality of the arts in the United States and
- To help broaden the availability and appreciation of such excellence, diversity, and vitality.

In implementing its mission the Endowment must exercise care to preserve and improve the environment in which the arts have flourished. It must not, under any circumstances, impose a single aesthetic standard or attempt to direct artistic content.

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**Statement of Mission**  
**National Endowment for the Arts,**  
**continued**

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**Implementation**

**Who:** The Endowment assists individual artists; those who act on behalf of artists or audiences; organizations whose primary intention is artistic or educational; and state and local arts agencies. Demonstrated or potential excellence and capacity to conceive, develop, or present a work of art are primary criteria.

**What:** Endowment activities:

- Demonstrate national recognition of the importance of artistic excellence.
- Provide opportunities for artists to develop their talents.
- Assist in the creation, production, presentation/exhibition of innovative and diverse work that has potential to affect the art form and directly or indirectly result over time in new art of permanent value.
- Assure preservation of our cultural heritage.
- Increase the performance, exhibition, and transmission of art to all people throughout the nation.
- Deepen understanding and appreciation of the arts among all people nationwide.
- Encourage serious and meaningful art programs as part of basic education.
- Stimulate increasing levels of nonfederal support of the arts.
- Improve the institutional capacity of the best of our arts organizations to develop, produce, present, and exhibit bold and varied fare.
- Provide information about the arts, their artistic and financial health, and the state of their audiences.

**How:** The Endowment, in conjunction with private and public partners, carries out its mission through grants programs and a wide range of leadership and advocacy activities. The Endowment also serves as a national forum to assist in the exchange of ideas and as a catalyst to promote the best developments in the arts and education about them. The Endowment's grants programs include individual, project, and longer term institutional support.

Endowment decision-making is guided by peer panel review and the National Council on the Arts and by additional advice from the artistic fields and their public and private supporters. The Endowment works closely with its public partners (the state and local arts agencies) to reflect regional, state, and local perspectives and assist cooperation in implementation of government arts support programs. The Endowment's programs are aimed at benefiting all people of this nation regardless of sex, race, creed, national origin, handicap, age, or habitat.

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Information about the Endowment and its programs is contained in *Guide to the National Endowment for the Arts*, which is available from:

Public Information Office  
National Endowment for the Arts  
Nancy Hanks Center  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20506  
202/682-5400

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## Introduction

The Visual Arts Program assists individuals of exceptional talent working in a wide range of styles and media. It also awards matching grants to visual arts organizations, state and local government units, educational institutions, and other nonprofit, tax-exempt groups.

### **THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS FISCAL YEARS 1985 and 1986 GUIDELINES FOR INDIVIDUALS ONLY.**

The Visual Arts Program also offers support to organizations through its Visual Artists Organizations, Visual Artists Forums, Art in Public Places, and Special Projects categories. Brief descriptions of these categories can be found under "Other Programs of Interest" on page 10. Detailed information and application instructions are contained in a separate guideline booklet, "VISUAL ARTS/GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS," available from the Visual Arts Program.

The Visual Artists Fellowships category has changed significantly from previous years. Please read this booklet carefully. If you have questions, we can be reached at:

Visual Arts Program  
National Endowment for the Arts  
Nancy Hanks Center  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20506  
202/682-5448

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## Application Review

After applications are received, they are checked for completeness by the Visual Arts Program staff and then reviewed by the appropriate Visual Arts Advisory Panel, a rotating committee of experts in the appropriate visual arts field. Following panel review, the National Council on the Arts makes recommendations to the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts for final decision. Applicants are then notified.

Please do not seek information on the status of your application. You will be notified in accordance with the Application Calendar inside the front cover of these guidelines.

When notified of receipt of a fellowship, applicants may request full or partial payment. Details will accompany the grant award letter.

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## Visual Artists Fellowships

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### Eligibility

Grants in this category encourage the creative development of professional artists by enabling them to set aside time to pursue their work and to purchase materials and equipment.

Visual Artists Fellowships are available to practicing professional artists of exceptional talent and demonstrated ability working in a wide variety of visual media: conceptual, performance, video, new genres, painting, printmaking, drawing, artists books, photography, sculpture, and crafts.

Applicants must be United States citizens or permanent residents of the U.S.

Over the past several years, the Endowment has received an average of 5,000 Visual Artists Fellowships applications a year. Only about five percent of these applications have been funded per year. Competition is intense. Individuals should be aware that work submitted is reviewed in a rigorous professional context. See also "We Do Not Fund" and "Review Criteria" below.

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### We Do Not Fund

- Students pursuing graduate or undergraduate degrees.
- Non-professionals who engage in artwork as a hobby.
- Artists who have received a major fellowship (\$15,000 or \$25,000) from the Visual Arts Program since October 1981.

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### Review Criteria

In reviewing applications, panelists consider the following:

- Quality of applicant's work as demonstrated by visual documentation submitted.
- Record of professional activity and achievement as reflected on the application form and/or by accompanying materials submitted.
- Evidence, based on the two factors cited above, that the applicant's work reflects continued, serious, and exceptional aesthetic investigation and will be at a critical point of development during the proposed fellowship period.

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### Grant Amounts

Fellowships will be awarded, based on the review criteria stated above, for \$15,000 and \$5,000. At the Panel's discretion, a very limited number of fellowships may be awarded for \$25,000.

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### Deadline Dates

Please review this calendar carefully. Individuals may apply only once, and in only one fellowship area, for any of the 1985-86 application deadlines listed below. Select the application date for the area which corresponds most accurately to your work.

Each fellowship area is offered every two years. Please note the calendar year in which your fellowship area is offered.

All applications must be postmarked no later than the appropriate deadline indicated below. For additional information, see the Application Calendar inside the front cover of these guidelines. **No late applications will be accepted.**

Fellowship Area	Application Postmark Deadline
New Genres (formerly "Conceptual/Performance/New Genres" and "Video")	January 15, 1985
Painting	February 1, 1985
Printmaking/Drawing/Artists Books	March 25, 1985
Photography	January 25, 1986
Sculpture	February 15, 1986
Crafts	March 15, 1986

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An individual may submit only one application in this category. If your work involves more than one fellowship area as outlined above, select the one most relevant to your overall concerns, e.g. painting, sculpture, drawing, new genres, etcetera. All applicants must indicate only one fellowship area on the application form and on the white cards on the back cover of these guidelines. Your work will be reviewed by a panel of artists and arts professionals who work in this area.

Fellowship applicants must send the following materials in one package to:

Grants Office/VA, 8th floor  
(Visual Artists Fellowships/Area in which you are applying)  
National Endowment for the Arts  
Nancy Hanks Center  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20506

1. Three copies of the Individual Grant Application Form NEA-2 (Rev.) on pages 13-14 of these guidelines. One copy submitted must be the typed or clearly printed original; the other two should be clear photocopies. Do not photocopy your signature; sign each copy. Be sure to keep an additional copy for your own records.

Under "Period of support requested," the time span may not start before the Earliest Fellowship Beginning Date shown for your area on the Application Calendar (see inside front cover). The fellowship period generally lasts for one year.

Please note that no project description is called for on the application form. Applications are reviewed on the basis of visual documentation and other supplementary materials as noted below.

2. Visual documentation and other supplementary materials as outlined in "Special Application Requirements" below.
3. The completed application acknowledgment and other cards which appear on the back cover of these guidelines. All three cards must be filled in with complete information.
4. Two copies of any final narrative reports on previous Visual Artists Fellowships you may have received, if not previously submitted.

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#### Special Application Requirements

In addition to Items 1, 3, and 4 listed above, your application must include visual documentation of your work and other materials as outlined below for your fellowship area. Please read this section carefully.



Must send a set of ten slides showing work relevant to to their current artistic concerns. As panel recommendation is based primarily on slide review, we urge you to pay special attention to the quality and relevance of the slides you submit.

Artists books applicants may supplement slides with no more than two samples of actual books, in either published or mock-up form. Do not send originals or one-of-a-kind books.

Applicants must also submit a list of the ten slides, typed on a single 8½" × 11" page. Your name, address, and the fellowship area under which you are applying must be included on this page. For each slide on this list, indicate:

- Slide number (1 through 10).
- Medium of work (e.g., oil on canvas).
- Size in inches of work (height × width × depth).
- Date of work.
- Title of work (if applicable).

You may also include on this same page a brief statement about the work submitted. This statement is optional.

#### How to Submit Slides

All slides should be 35 mm size and must be in 2" × 2" mounts for Carousel projection. Slides must be placed in a 9" × 11" clear plastic slide file sheet for safe handling. You should retain your original slides and send duplicates with your application. Do not submit glass mounted slides.

Slides will be projected in two groups of five slides, left to right: slides 1-5 simultaneously, followed by slides 6-10. Close-up shots showing details of your work may be included in the ten slides. To insure that your slides are projected in the order you prefer, label each slide as follows, and refer to the diagram below when arranging your slides in the slide file sheet:

- "TOP" or ↑. (The top of the work shown must be at the top of the slide when in the sleeve.)
- Name of artist. (Do not use initials; use same name as on application form.)
- Slide number (1-10 per sample below).

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10

Do not use masking tape or other thick tape to label slides.

Every effort will be made to return slides. However, the Endowment cannot be responsible for any damage or loss that may occur during handling or shipping.

APPLICATIONS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY SLIDES AS REQUESTED WILL BE CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE AND WILL NOT BE REVIEWED BY THE PANEL.

(Continued on next page)

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The Theater Program offers fellowships to playwrights, translators of plays, and mimes. (202/682-5425)

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#### Office for Special Constituencies

The Office for Special Constituencies assists individuals and nonprofit organizations in making arts activities accessible to older adults, disabled and institutionalized populations. As part of its advocacy and technical assistance efforts, model project guidelines are developed with Endowment programs to encourage projects that demonstrate innovative ways to make the arts accessible. Please call or write the Office concerning model project guidelines, technical assistance materials relating to accessibility, or for assistance in developing accessible programs. (202/682-5531 or TTY-202/682-5496)

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#### National Endowment Fellowships for Arts Managers

The National Endowment Fellowship program brings arts administrators to the Endowment's offices in Washington, D.C.. Participants work as members of the Endowment staff, and attend seminars and meetings with arts leaders. (202/682-5786)

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#### International Exchange Fellowships

International Exchange Fellowships are awarded to outstanding mid-career practicing artists in various disciplines who show promise of becoming leaders in their field. Since 1978 the Arts Endowment has awarded five fellowships annually for six- to nine-month residencies in Japan. On a pilot basis, an exchange program with France may be established. Exchange programs with other countries may be established in the future.

Artists applying under any fellowship area of these Visual Artists Fellowships guidelines will automatically be eligible for consideration.

The Visual Arts Program fellowship advisory panels will recommend one or two artists in each fellowship area for consideration for an International Exchange Fellowship. Recommendation for an International Exchange Fellowship will not affect your application for a Visual Artists Fellowship.

Interested applicants should complete the regular Visual Artists Fellowship application form on pages 13-14 and add the phrase "US/Japan" and/or "US/France" to the top of the form. This must be submitted at the appropriate deadline for your area of work which is listed on the inside front cover. Visual artists should not complete any other forms and may not apply directly for an International Exchange Fellowship.

Please do not inquire about the status of a US/Japan or US/France recommendation. Only recommended artists will be notified.

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